

# DHS Presentation to the Transportation, Infrastructure and Capitals Appropriations Subcommittee

*February 17, 2005*

## **FY 2006 DHS Capitals Request**

### **CCUSO – Governor’s Recommendation -- \$1,050,000 from the Restricted Capital Fund**

- CCUSO provides a secure, long term, and highly structured setting to treat individuals who have served their prison terms and have, in a separate civil trial, been found likely to commit further violent sexual offenses. These individuals are committed under Section 229A of the Code as sexually violent predators. The five-phase treatment program at CCUSO includes group and individual therapy, educational programming for patients without the basic skills needed to fully participate in therapy, physiological assessments to measure and verify results of treatment strategies, and transitional and discharge planning, with supervision for patients who complete all five phases if ordered by a court.
- The CCUSO program was moved to Cherokee from Oakdale in the fall of 2003, after a \$1,950,000 renovation. These funds paid for the renovation of three wards – with a capacity of 68 patients -- in the South “stack”, as well as a high-security double fence and technology for the Control Room.
- DHS has no control over the number of patients committed to CCUSO. There are currently 49 patients. We project:
  - a population on June 30, 2005 of 55
  - a population at the end of FY 2006 of 67, and
  - a population at the end of FY 2007 of 78.
- Because of security concerns and the nature of plumbing and HVAC systems it is less expensive to renovate all three wards in a “stack” at the same time. Renovation includes updating the plumbing and HVAC systems and installing cameras and other security equipment.. The \$1,050,000 recommended by the Governor will make the middle “stack” available for patient use when needed during FY 2007.

### **Other capital requests**

- **Iowa Juvenile Home at Toledo** provides a complete range of treatment and educational services within a highly structured setting to assist young women who have been adjudicated delinquent and young men and women who have been adjudicated as children in need of assistance. In FY 2004 Toledo had 135 admissions and 127 discharges, and an average daily census of 89. The Iowa Juvenile Home has submitted a capitals request for \$15,600,000 that would:
  - construct a new school/infirmery building. The overcrowded conditions in the existing education building interfere with the educational program, especially for vocational programs that help students learn the skills they need to gain post-discharge employment. The current infirmery needs major renovation, and it is less expensive to build a new infirmery in the basement of the new school building.
  - renovate living units to save energy, address basement drainage problems, and improve temperature control.

- demolish the power plant building. The building has major structural problems (daylight is visible through the roof and structural engineers say it is not cost-effective to repair) and the funding will replace it with a new energy-efficient, economical geothermal heating and cooling system.
- **CCUSO** has submitted a request for \$1,000,000 for an elevator/stair addition to allow access for mobility-impaired patients to the wards located on the second and third floors. This will avoid having to use staff to transport patients up and down stairs and avoid possible ADA litigation. The elevator will also be used to move food and other support items between floors.
- **Other DHS Facilities** have submitted requests totaling \$14.2 million that address much-needed electrical, plumbing, HVAC, roofing, and structural work at the four Mental Health Institutes, two State Resource Centers, and State Training School. We can provide a detailed list of these projects upon request. These requests will also be submitted under the VIAC process for possible funding as major maintenance items.

## Iowa Juvenile Home – Proposed Capital Improvements

The Iowa Juvenile Home is currently home to 20 boys and 64 girls who have led turbulent lives, extensively involved in the court or human services systems. IJH youth are either children in need of assistance (CINA) or delinquent females. The Institution has been serving the people of Iowa since 1920 and many of the existing buildings on campus date back to those early years. IJH is aging “ungracefully”. Overcrowding and inadequate physical space cultivate a climate of disrespect and humiliation. The time has come for the infrastructure to be responsive to the needs of Iowa’s youth and nurture their strengths.

Funding consideration is requested for infrastructure improvements at the Iowa Juvenile Home that will positively impact the **education, treatment, health, and safety** of the youth at IJH. The estimated cost of improvements is \$15.3 million phased over 3 years. The cost allocation will be approximately:

• FY06 \$4,882,940

• FY07 \$7,439,386

• FY08 \$2,978,826

**Construction of a Vocational School Building.** A big gap in services for youth at IJH is in providing vocational training and education. IJH currently teaches vocational classes (separate for both boys and girls) in food preparation, photography, career exploration, and retail merchandising. There is a waiting list for vocational classes. This is less than half the number of vocational programs offered for boys at the State Training School. Many of the girls have expressed an interest in training and employment opportunities that go beyond gender stereotypes, such as construction or electronics. Gender responsiveness requires attention to the educational needs of girls so that programs can address girls’ needs and foster healthy development and re-entry to the community. In addition, the existing IJH school building, built in 1949, would be revitalized and upgraded to accommodate the educational needs of IJH youth.

**Re-location of Security Department.** The Security Department is currently housed with medical staff in the Infirmary Building, built in 1923. The infrastructure plan requests a relocation of security and medical staff to the lower level of the vocational school building.

**Replacement of Power House.** The existing Power House, built in 1923, is considered an unstable structure and potentially dangerous. The 40-year-old boilers and deteriorating pipes pose a reliability risk and a financial risk as equipment more than exceeds expected useful lives. Replacing the Power House, while spending money upfront, could result in dramatic cost savings by replacing old, inefficient systems and reduce utility costs and continual maintenance repairs.

**Cottage Renovation.** The 5 existing living units (cottages) would be renovated to replace drafty windows, leaky roofs, heating and cooling, and needed related work. Revitalizing these living units would provide youth with a healthy, nurturing environment in which to develop.

*Photos and additional information available upon request.*